## Fact Sheet



Martin O'Malley
Governor
Anthony Brown

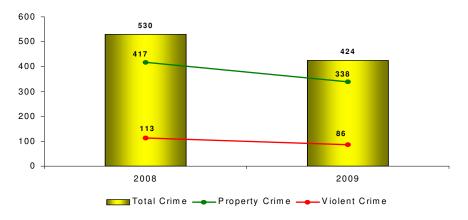
Anthony Brown
Lieutenant Governor

# **Kent County**

### Working to reduce violent crime in Maryland

Governor O'Malley's primary concern for the State of Maryland is to provide safety for its citizens. To date, Maryland has the lowest homicide and violent crime numbers in a quarter of a century. However, the real story can be told at the local level where the difficult work of addressing violent crime and supporting victims is done every day. Over the last 3 years, through unprecedented federal, state, and local law enforcement collaboration, Kent County has seen a 9.2% reduction in total crime and a significant 13.6% reduction in property crime. In addition, the County has seen a significant reduction in larceny/thefts (-21.7%) over the same 3 year period. The year 2009 was very successful for Kent County which experienced significant reductions in total crime (-20.0%), violent crime (-23.9%), and property crime (-18.9%), when compared to 2008.

#### Kent County Crime Trends 2008 - 2009



#### KENT COUNTY MAKES AN IMPACT:

Now more than ever before, crime reduction depends on federal, state, and local collaboration. Real-time information sharing, more effective crime analysis, new technology, the strategic targeting of violent offenders, and improved community resources all contributed to Kent County's success.

Governor O'Malley's Office of Crime Control and Prevention provided \$750,958 in grant funding to Kent County from 2007-2009 to prevent and control crime. As a result, Kent County has been able to implement successful crime fighting strategies such as:

Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol - The Kent County Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol initiative targets the enforcement of underage drinking laws in Maryland. The program enhances existing enforcement tools, provides education on alcohol's physiological effects, and raises awareness of local issues and the laws/policies regarding underage access to alcohol.

#### **Key Initiatives**

- Heightened Supervision of Violent Offenders
- CompStat on Demand
- Crime Analysis
- Crime Mapping
- Victim Services
- Protective
   Order Date
   Entry
- Prevention First
- E-Citation
- Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws
- Courthouse Security
- Truancy
   Reduction

**Updated August 2010** 



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#### **KENT COUNTY MAKES AN IMPACT:**

- ▶ Juvenile Justice Initiative The Local Management Board of Kent County's Prevention First program enhances prevention and education programs that prevent and control crime. Three Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions address adolescent substance abuse and attendance issues at eight public schools. The program utilizes evidence-based substance abuse prevention and intervention programs via pre-established methods within the schools. The program also includes truancy prevention and intervention strategies to increase student exposure to prevention and education programs.
- ➤ Victim's Assistance The Kent County Sheriff's Office Victim/Witness Services County program provides critical support to the county's female victims of violence. This program addresses victims' needs by contacting them, providing education on their rights, connecting them to appropriate resources, and supporting them in the judiciary if they file charges. Approximately 85% of the Provider's time is spent supporting women victims of violence. Case loads continue to grow under the Jane Doe laws.
- ➤ Law Enforcement Technology The District Court of Maryland offers law enforcement an opportunity to issue electronic traffic citations and submit them to the District Court in an electronic format. The Kent County Sheriff's Offices' E-Citation Initiative eliminates the need for paper citations and witness forms, thereby improving efficiency, productivity, and officer safety.



"Kent County's successful record on fighting crime is rooted in its responsiveness to community concerns. The county's outreach to young people and to victims demonstrates concern for the people of the county. But it also ensures the county remains a safe and secure place in which to live."

Governor Martin O'Malley